GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2729
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2004
PROCUREMENT OF KHADI IN RAILWAYS
Modi Shri Sushil Kumar

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made mandatory the use of Khadi in Railways;

(b) if so, the target set for the procurement of total quantum of khadi cloth for bed-sheets, curtains etc. in the Railways for the current financial year and the extent to which it has been achieved so far alongwith amount spent /to be spent in this regard;

(c) the procedure/criteria for procurement of khadi in the Railways; and

(d) the plan of the Government to ensure that the poor weavers get the direct benefit of the use of khadi in the railways circumscribing the intermediaries ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a)&(b): As per the present policy, it is mandatory for the Railways to procure requirement of upholstery/linen i.e. Bed- roll items etc. (except for curtain cloth for use in AC coaches which is required in fire retardant quality) for their use in Trains, Railway Offices, Retiring Rooms, Rest Houses, Running Rooms, etc. in khadi/handloom variety. No target has been set for procurement of khadi cloth in the Railways.

(c)&(d): Government of India`s extant policy to exclusively procure the requirements of khadi from Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is being followed by Railways. KVIC being a Government body is to co-ordinate and supply Khadi. There being no other intermediaries, the question of weavers not getting direct benefit should not arise.